

country. And yet the Democratic leaders of Congress have consistently blocked opening up these lands for exploration.

The other part of our briefing was how we could explore in environmentally friendly ways. Technology has changed dramatically to enable the exploitation of oil in a way that protects the environment. You know, these Members of Congress, particularly the Democratic leadership, must address this issue before they go home for this upcoming August break. They have a responsibility to explain to their constituents why we should not be drilling for more oil here in America to take the pressure off of gasoline prices.

I want to thank you all very much for your briefing. These are tough economic times for the American citizens. There is a way forward to help relieve some of their—some of the pressure on their pocketbooks. And I'm looking forward to seeing—watching this Congress respond in a positive way.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:38 a.m. at the Department of Energy.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 4

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Charlottesville, VA, where he toured Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

July 5

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Chitose, Japan, arriving the following afternoon.

July 6

In the afternoon, upon arrival at New Chitose Airport, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in an arrival ceremony. They then traveled to the Windsor Hotel Toya Resort and Spa in Toyako, Japan.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in a social dinner with Prime Minister Fukuda and his wife, Kiyoko.

July 7

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a working lunch and photo opportunity with Group of Eight (G-8) leaders and Africa outreach representatives. Later, he participated in a meeting with G-8 leaders and Africa outreach representatives.

In the evening, the President met with Junior 8 student leaders. Then he and Mrs. Bush attended entertainment and a social dinner with G-8 leaders and their spouses.

July 8

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he participated in a G-8 summit meeting.

In the afternoon, the President participated in the G-8 summit official photograph. He then participated in a working lunch and meeting with G-8 leaders.

In the evening, the President participated in a working dinner with G-8 leaders.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete of Tanzania to the White House on August 29.

July 9

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he participated in a meeting with G-8 leaders and outreach country representatives. He then participated in a meeting with the leaders of major economies.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a photo opportunity with the leaders of major economies. He then participated in a working lunch with G-8 leaders and outreach country representatives.

Later in the afternoon, the President met with President Lee Myung-bak of South

Korea. Then he and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC, crossing the international dateline and arriving in the afternoon.

The President declared a major disaster in Kansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes from May 22–June 16.

The President declared a major disaster in Oklahoma and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding from June 3–20.

The President declared a major disaster in South Dakota and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding from June 2–12.

July 10

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced that he has nominated Ruth Y. Goldway to be Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission.

The President announced that he has nominated Joyce Lee Malcolm and Robert L. Paquette to be members of the National Council on the Humanities.

The President announced that he has nominated Clifford D. May to be a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

The President announced his intention to nominate Anthony W. Ryan to be Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance) and that he has designated him as Acting Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance).

July 11

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a telephone conversation with President Abdullah Gul of Turkey to express his condolences for the deaths of Turkish police officers who were killed while defending the U.S. consulate in Istanbul against a terrorist attack on July 9 and to discuss Turkey's role in Iraq. He then had a telephone conversation with President Khalifa bin Zayid al-Nahayyan of the United Arab Emirates to thank him for the country's cancellation of Iraq's debt and for reopening

their Embassy in Iraq and appointing an Ambassador to Iraq.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Camp David, MD.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Fatmir Sejdiu and Prime Minister Hashim Thaci of Kosovo to the White House on July 21.

The President announced that he has named Ryan Bounds as Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy.

The President announced that he has named Ashok M. Pinto as Associate Counsel to the President.

The President announced that he has named Bridget Sheedy as Special Assistant to the President for White House Management.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted July 10

Christine M. Arguello,
of Colorado, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Colorado, vice Walker D. Miller, retired.

Philip A. Brimmer,
of Colorado, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Colorado, vice Lewis T. Babcock, retired.

Gregory E. Goldberg,
of Colorado, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Colorado, vice Phillip S. Figa, deceased.

Ruth Y. Goldway,
of California, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for the term expiring November 22, 2014 (reappointment).